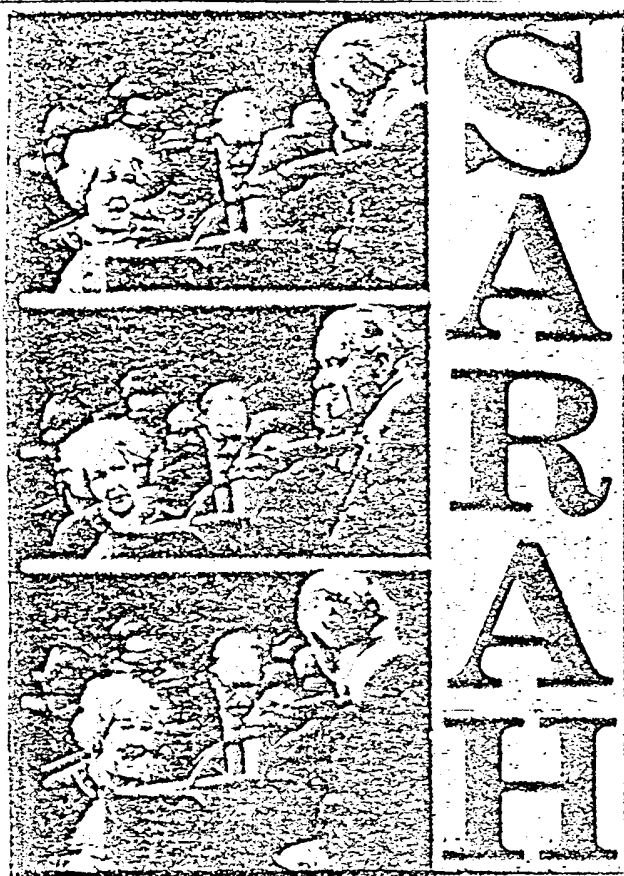


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One sure way the U.S. could get the hostages freed would be to turn this over as project to the Association of Former Intelligence Officers, who held their convention at Tyson's Corner recently. This organization, which now has members from nine federal agencies including the CIA, FBI, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency and others, now has about 2500 enrolled. It was founded in the living room of David Phillips in Bethesda a few years ago . . . . There they were, out of the cold, many of them. Many are people whom we had known but did not know what they did . . . . There was no braggadocio, but the recounting of lives lived under unspeakable dangers, accomplishing Missions Impossible as a routine, brought admiration for service to country . . . . Of course there were those still in fervent belief that what they had done was right, even if it meant arbitrary decisions that affected lives and future independence of nations . . . .

Richard Helms, former director of the CIA, came to the meeting . . . . So did Daniel Schorr. An associate of Philip Agee, who exposes CIA agents, got some hard looks but was not denied a place at the press table . . . .

Then there was Hans Tofte, now of Coopers-town, N.Y., who lived in that house on upper-35th Street where he had brought some papers for work on the week-end when some CIA employes came to the house to rent an apartment and saw them, and reported him . . . . Hans says the papers were covered up, hidden on one level and the apartment for rent was on a distant level . . . . "Oh, well they wanted to get rid of me anyhow," he said after all those years of service . . . . He sued the individuals involved, including officials to prove his innocence and get the very substantial pension rights, 16 years at super. After seven years, he won his case and had full pension restored . . . .